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REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the indication by the examiner of the allowability of the subject matter recited in claims 168 through 179, 212, and 213.

Claims 71 through 167, 180 through 211, and 214 through 217, which had been withdrawn from consideration by the examiner, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the inventions claimed in the canceled claims.

Claims 173, 175, 179, 212, and 213 have each been amended. In that regard, the examiner's suggested amendments to claims 173, 179, and 212 have been adopted to overcome the objections that had been noted by the examiner relative to those claims. Additionally, claims 175, 212, and 213 have been amended to overcome the indefiniteness that had been noted by the examiner relative to those claims.

Based upon the foregoing amendments and remarks, the claims as they now stand in the application are believed clearly to be in allowable form. Consequently, reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested with a view toward the issuance of an early Notice of Allowance.

The examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney if this Amendment raises any questions, so that any such question can be

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quickly resolved in order that the present application can proceed toward allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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